Pec'd PCT/PTC 23 MAR 2005

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C12N1/21 C12N C12N9/02 C12N9/00 C12P17/12 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C12N C12P Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, EMBASE, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, FSTA C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Α EP 0 765 938 A (HOFFMANN LA ROCHE) 1-16 2 April 1997 (1997-04-02) the whole document TAZOE M ET AL: "Biosynthesis of vitamin Α 1-16 B6 in Rhizobium" JOURNAL OF BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY, AMERICAN SOCIETY OF BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTS, BALTIMORE, MD, US, vol. 275, no. 15, 14 April 2000 (2000-04-14), pages 11300-11305, XP002221306 ISSN: 0021-9258 the whole document Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: \*T' later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 2 February 2004 23/02/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Lejeune, R



PCT/EP /10286

		PCT/EP //10286				
C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT  Category C. Citation of document, with indication whose appropriate of the relevant passages.						
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.				
P, A	YOUNG J M: "The genus name Ensifer Casida 1982 takes priority over Sinorhizobium Chen et al. 1988, and Sinorhizobium morelense Wang et al. 2002 is a later synonym of Ensifer adhaerens Casida 1982. Is the combination 'Sinorhizobium adhaerens' (Casida 1982) Willems et al. 2003 legitimate? Request for an Opinion" INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF SYSTEMATIC AND EVOLUTIONARY MICROBIOLOGY 2003 UNITED KINGDOM, vol. 53, no. 6, 30 May 2003 (2003-05-30), pages 2107-2110, XP002268768 ISSN: 1466-5026 the whole document	Relevant to claim No.  1-16				

## INTERNATION/ EARCH REPORT

PCT/E /10286

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0765938	Α .	02-04-1997	EP AT CN DE DE DK ES JP US	0765938 A2 220107 T 1153823 A ,B 69622114 D1 69622114 T2 765938 T3 2179141 T3 9107985 A 5766894 A	02-04-1997 15-07-2002 09-07-1997 08-08-2002 27-02-2003 28-10-2002 16-01-2003 28-04-1997 16-06-1998